



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office**

Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------

08/938,468 08/14/96 HOLT

N 669005.409C3

022913 TM02/0717
WORKMAN NYDEGGER & SEELEY
1000 EAGLE GATE TOWER
60 EAST SOUTH TEMPLE
SALT LAKE CITY UT 84111

EXAMINER

BASHORE, W

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2176
DATE MAILED:

07/17/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.
08/938,468

Applicant(s)
Holt, Nick et al.

Examiner
William L. Bashore

Art Unit
2176



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on May 1, 2001
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 7-15, 17, 19, 21-26, 29, and 43-46 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 7-15, 17, 19, 21-26, 29, and 43-46 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: ☐ approved ☒ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- *See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 17) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____ 20) ☐ Other: _____

Art Unit: 2176

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communications: amendment filed on 5/1/2001, to the application filed on 8/14/1996 (Rule 60). Preliminary amendment filed on 4/21/1998, and IDS filed on 4/21/1998.
2. It is noted that this application has the following continuation history: application 08/334,616 (now Patent No. 5,557,723) ; application 08/207,231 filed 3/7/1994 (abandoned) ; and application 07/621,444 filed 11/30/1990 (abandoned). This application claims a filing date of **11/30/1990**.
3. The objection to the title of the invention has been withdrawn as necessitated by amendment.
4. The objection to the abstract of the invention has been withdrawn as necessitated by amendment.
5. The Examiner acknowledges amendment to the Specification, said amendment does not add new matter to Applicant's disclosure.
6. The objection to claim 38 (informality) has been withdrawn as necessitated by amendment.
7. The rejection of claims 3, 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 19, 20, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 39, 41 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph as being indefinite has been withdrawn as necessitated by amendment.
8. The rejection of claim 2 is under 35 U.S.C. 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter has been withdrawn as necessitated by amendment.
9. The rejection of claims 2-42 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Texier and Karnik has been withdrawn as necessitated by amendment.
10. Claims 7-15, 17, 19, 21-26, 29, 43-46 are pending in this case. Claims 2-6, 16, 18, 20, 27-28, 30-42 have been canceled. Claims 7, 12, 19, 29 are independent claims.

Art Unit: 2176

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

11. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

12. **Claims 7, 9-11, 29, 44-46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Texier, U.S. Patent No. 5,119,476 issued June 1992, in view of Turpin et al. (hereinafter Turpin), U.S. Patent No. 5,745,712 issued April 1998.**

In regard to independent claim 7, Texier teaches:

- the creation of a custom form (Texier Abstract, column 1 lines 61-63; compare with claim 7 preamble "*a method in a computer system....the method comprising*").
- Texier does not specifically teach providing a plurality of defined field types and defined behaviors presented for user selection. However, Turpin teaches a form creation tool comprising a toolbar of various items for field customization in a form (Turpin Abstract, also Figure 35A - 35E, column 21 lines 45-63; compare with claim 7 "*providing a plurality of defined field types that can be associated with custom fields that can be included in the custom form*", and "*receiving user input selecting: a selected field type from among the plurality of defined field types*"). Turpin also teaches defined behaviors in the form of operation trees assigned to fields, said tree can be copied to a new field (Turpin column 26 lines 6-21; compare with claim 7 "*providing a plurality of defined behaviors that can be associated with the custom fields that can be included in the custom form*", and "*receiving user input selecting: a selected behavior from among the*").

Art Unit: 2176

plurality of defined behaviors”). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply Turpin to Texier, because of Turpin’s taught advantage of selectable defined field types and behaviors, providing a user of Texier the advantage of visually choosing field types/behaviors from a visually presented set.

- zones which are equivalent to fields. said zones containing associated descriptions and behaviors. as well as a form control procedure to implement a procedure associated with certain fields (Texier Figure 1 items P1-P7, column 6 lines 46-56, also column 8 lines 1-12: compare with claim 7 “*creating a custom field in the custom form, the custom field having the selected field type and the selected behavior*”).

- display of a custom form, receiving data invoking a procedure to accept data from a custom field (Texier Figure 1, also column 2 lines 8-15; compare with claim 7 “*displaying the custom form, including the custom field, on a display device*”, and “*receiving data directed to the custom field of the displayed custom form*”).

- a form control procedure for executing a selected custom behavior subsequent to user input (validation) (Texier Figure 1 item P7, also Figure 3; compare with claim 7 “*in response to receiving the data....performing the selected behavior for the custom field*”).

In regard to dependent claim 9, Texier teaches a form containing a plurality of input fields said input fields can be assigned to various procedures (ie. validation, font, etc.) (Texier Figure 1, 3; compare with claim 9).

Art Unit: 2176

In regard to dependent claim 10, Texier teaches a displayed form containing fields placed on said form utilizing placement field data controlled by the program (Texier Figure 1, also column 6 lines 46-56: compare with claim 10).

In regard to dependent claim 11, Teller teaches a form with an active field triggering a validation event subsequent to user input of data into said field (Texier column 2 lines 8-15: compare with claim 11).

In regard to independent claim 29, Texier teaches:

- the creation of a custom form (Texier Abstract, column 1 lines 61-63; compare with claim 7 preamble "*a computer readable medium....comprising*").

- Texier does not specifically teach providing a plurality of defined field types and defined behaviors presented for user selection. However, Turpin teaches a form creation tool comprising a toolbar of various items for field customization in a form (Turpin Abstract, also Figure 35A - 35E, column 21 lines 45-63; compare with claim 29 "*providing a plurality of defined field types that can be associated with custom fields that can be included in the custom form*", and "*receiving user input selecting: a selected field type from among the plurality of defined field types*"). Turpin also teaches defined behaviors in the form of operation trees assigned to fields, said tree can be copied to a new field (Turpin column 26 lines 6-21; compare with claim 29 "*providing a plurality of defined behaviors that can be associated with the custom fields that can be included in the custom form*", and "*receiving user input selecting: a selected behavior from among the plurality of defined behaviors*"). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply Turpin to Texier, because of Turpin's taught advantage of selectable

Art Unit: 2176

defined field types and behaviors, providing a user of Texier the advantage of visually choosing field types/behaviors from a visually presented set.

- zones which are equivalent to fields. said zones containing associated descriptions and behaviors. as well as a form control procedure to implement a procedure associated with certain fields (Texier Figure 1 items P1-P7, column 6 lines 46-56, also column 8 lines 1-12: compare with claim 29 “*creating a custom field in the custom form, the custom field having the selected field type and the selected behavior*”).

- display of a custom form, receiving data invoking a procedure to accept data from a custom field (Texier Figure 1, also column 2 lines 8-15; compare with claim 29 “*displaying the custom form, including the custom field, on a display device*”, and “*receiving data directed to the custom field of the displayed custom form*”).

- a form control procedure for executing a selected custom behavior subsequent to user input (validation) (Texier Figure 1 item P7, also Figure 3; compare with claim 29 “*in response to receiving the data....performing the selected behavior for the custom field*”).

In regard to dependent claim 44, Texier teaches a form containing a plurality of input fields said input fields can be assigned to various procedures (ie. validation, font, etc.) (Texier Figure 1, 3; compare with claim 44).

In regard to dependent claim 45, Texier teaches a displayed form containing fields placed on said form utilizing placement field data controlled by the program (Texier Figure 1, also column 6 lines 46-56: compare with claim 45).

Art Unit: 2176

In regard to dependent claim 46, Teller teaches a form with an active field triggering a validation event subsequent to user input of data into said field (Texier column 2 lines 8-15: compare with claim 46).

13. **Claims 8, 12-15, 17, 19, 21-26, 43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Texier, U.S. Patent No. 5,119,476 issued June 1992, in view of Turpin et al. (hereinafter Turpin), U.S. Patent No. 5,745,712 issued April 1998 , and further in view of Karnik, U.S. Patent No. 5,404,294 issued April 1995.**

In regard to dependent claim 8 (dependent from claim 7), Texier does not specifically teach a behavior modifying more than one field. However, Karnik teaches a form system whereby tags (fields) can be linked to other tags arithmetically using different mathematical functions (Karnik column 6 lines 8-17; compare with claim 8). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply Karnik to Texier, because of Karnik's taught advantage of tag linking, providing a way to incorporate formulas (a custom behavior) into the forms of Texier.

In regard to independent claim 12, Texier teaches:

- the creation of a custom form (Texier Abstract, column 1 lines 61-63; compare with claim 12 preamble "*a method in a computer system....the method comprising*").

- display of a custom form (Texier Figure 1; compare with claim 12 "*displaying the custom form, the custom form having one or more custom fields, wherein each custom field has:*")

- Texier does not specifically teach providing a plurality of defined field types and defined behaviors presented for user selection. However, Turpin teaches a form creation tool comprising a toolbar of various

Art Unit: 2176

items for field customization in a form (Turpin Abstract, also Figure 35A - 35E, column 21 lines 45-63; compare with claim 12 "*a selected custom field type that has been selected by a user from among a plurality of defined custom field types that are supported by the computer system*"). Turpin also teaches defined behaviors in the form of operation trees assigned to fields, said tree can be copied to a new field (Turpin column 26 lines 6-21; compare with claim 12 "*a selected custom behavior that has been selected by a user from among a plurality of defined custom behaviors that are supported by the computer system*"). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply Turpin to Texier, because of Turpin's taught advantage of selectable defined field types and behaviors, providing a user of Texier the advantage of visually choosing field types/behaviors from a visually presented set.

- display of a custom form, receiving data invoking a procedure to accept data from a custom field (Texier Figure 1, also column 2 lines 8-15; compare with claim 12 "*receiving data directed to a particular field of the custom form*").

- a form control procedure for executing a selected custom behavior subsequent to user input (validation), which commences execution of another behavior subsequent to said validation (Texier Figure 1 item P7, also Figure 3; compare with claim 12 "*determining that the particular field is a custom field that has a selected custom behavior*", and "*in response to the act of determining, performing the selected custom behavior for the particular field*", and "*determining whether to perform another behavior....custom behavior having been performed*").

- Texier does not specifically teach a custom behavior for an identified field indicating user defined operations. However. Karnik teaches a form system whereby tags (fields) can be linked to other tags arithmetically using different mathematical functions, and different types of mathematical functions can be specified (Karnik column 6 lines 8-17; compare with claim 12 "*a custom behavior*". It would have been

Art Unit: 2176

obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply Karnik to Texier. because of Karnik's taught advantage of tag linking. providing a way to incorporate formulas (a custom behavior) into the forms of Texier.

In regard to dependent claim 13, Texier teaches a form with an active field triggering a validation event subsequent to user input of data into said field (Texier column 2 lines 8-15: compare with claim 13).

In regard to dependent claim 14, Texier teaches the creation of a form, a form header containing data describing a window in which fields are displayed, and zones which are equivalent to fields, said zones containing associated descriptions and behaviors, said fields reflective of a default standard rectangular field and a standard behavior (text input) (Texier column 1 lines 61-63. column 3 lines 42-43. Figure 1 items P1-P7. also column G lines 46-56: compare with claim 14).

In regard to dependent claim 15, Texier does not specifically teach the explicit ordering of a behavior (validation) before or after execution of a custom behavior (combining multiple field data using a formula). However, placement of said behavior, either before or after a custom behavior, would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, because form data validation is executed at all levels of data handling code in known mission critical software systems, providing increased data accuracy to Texier.

In regard to dependent claim 17, Texier teaches data field input and display by a user (Texier Abstract. also Figure I; compare with claim 17).

Art Unit: 2176

In regard to independent claim 19, Texier teaches:

- the creation of a custom form (Texier Abstract, column 1 lines 61-63; compare with claim 7 preamble "*a method in a computer system....the method comprising*").

- Texier does not specifically teach a custom behavior for an identified field indicating user defined operations. However, Karnik teaches a form system whereby tags (fields) can be linked to other tags arithmetically using different mathematical functions, and different types of mathematical functions can be specified (Karnik column 6 lines 8-17; compare with claim 19 "*a custom behavior*"). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply Karnik to Texier, because of Karnik's taught advantage of tag linking, providing a way to incorporate formulas (a custom behavior) into the forms of Texier.

- display of a custom form (Texier Figure 1; compare with claim 19 "*displaying the custom form, the custom form having a custom field, wherein the custom field has:*")

- Texier does not specifically teach providing a plurality of defined field types and defined behaviors presented for user selection. However, Turpin teaches a form creation tool comprising a toolbar of various items for field customization in a form (Turpin Abstract, also Figure 35A - 35E, column 21 lines 45-63; compare with claim 19 "*a selected custom field type that has been selected by a user from among a plurality of defined custom field types that are supported by the computer system*"). Turpin also teaches defined behaviors in the form of operation trees assigned to fields, said tree can be copied to a new field (Turpin column 26 lines 6-21; compare with claim 19 "*a selected custom behavior that has been selected by a user from among a plurality of defined custom behaviors that are supported by the computer system*").

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply Turpin to

Art Unit: 2176

Texier, because of Turpin's taught advantage of selectable defined field types and behaviors, providing a user of Texier the advantage of visually choosing field types/behaviors from a visually presented set.

- an input field, which is indicative of a standard behavior, and is implemented without further selection (acceptance of textual input into an input buffer) (Texier Figure 1; compare with claim 19 "*a standard behavior....required to select the standard behavior*").

- display of a custom form, receiving data invoking a procedure to accept data from a custom input field (Texier Figure 1, also column 2 lines 8-15; compare with claim 19 "*receiving data directed to the custom field*").

- a form control procedure for executing a selected custom behavior subsequent to user input (validation), which commences execution of another behavior subsequent to said validation, said form control procedure also processing a standard behavior (acceptance and processing of textual input) (Texier Figure 1 items P1 - P7, also Figure 3; compare with claim 19 "*invoking a form control procedure operating at the computer system*", and "*receiving an indication from the form control procedure to perform the standard behavior for the field*", and "*performing the standard behavior for the custom field*", and "*reinvoking the form....custom behavior for the custom field*").

In regard to dependent claim 21, Texier teaches a form control procedure to implement a procedure associated with certain fields. as well as zones -which are equivalent to fields. said zones containing associated descriptions and behaviors (Texier Figure 1 items P 1-P7. column 6 lines 46-66. column 8 lines 5-12: compare with claim 21).

Art Unit: 2176

In regard to dependent claim 22, transporting forms for display in other computers systems via a network is known in the networking art.

In regard to dependent claim 23, Texier teaches a validation button (Texier Figure I item P7: compare with claim 23).

In regard to dependent claims 24, 25, 26, Texier teaches a displayed form with multiple input fields (Texier Figure 1: compare with claims 24, 25, 26.

In regard to dependent claim 43 (dependent from claim 29), Texier does not specifically teach a behavior modifying more then one field. However, Karnik teaches a form system whereby tags (fields) can be linked to other tags arithmetically using different mathematical functions (Karnik column 6 lines 8-17; compare with claim 43). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply Karnik to Texier, because of Karnik's taught advantage of tag linking, providing a way to incorporate formulas (a custom behavior) into the forms of Texier.

14. Prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to disclosure.

Pickens et al.	U.S. Patent No. 5,091,868	issued	February	1992
Morgam	U.S. Patent No. 5,208,906	issued	May	1993

Art Unit: 2176

Response to Arguments

15. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 7-15, 17, 19, 21-26, 29, 43-46 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. It is noted that Applicant's arguments are substantially directed to the claims as they are presently amended.

Applicant argues on pages 15 and 16 of the amendment that neither Texier nor Karnik disclose the limitations as presently claimed. The Examiner has retained Texier and Karnik, and has applied a new reference (Turpin) where necessary. Turpin is significant for at least providing user selectable elements for creating and defining fields, said elements displayed via a toolbar. Behaviors can be customized via the use of trees, said trees can be copied to new fields by a user.

Conclusion

16. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Art Unit: 2176

17. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William Bashore whose telephone number is (703) 308-5807. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather Herndon, can be reached on (703) 308-5186. The fax number to this art unit is (703) 308-6606.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

18. Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

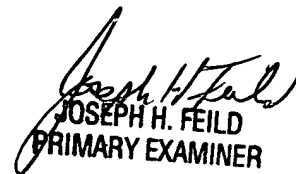
(703) 308-9051, (for formal communications intended for entry)

or:

(703) 305-9724 (for informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

William L. Bashore
7/7/2001


JOSEPH H. FEILD
PRIMARY EXAMINER